

IASC RESULTS GROUP ON HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATION

Humanitarian – Development – Collective Outcomes:
Key elements defining a Collective Outcome

Principled and Constructive Humanitarian Engagement

July 2019

Background

The Commitment to Action, launched at the World Humanitarian Summit called for transcending the humanitarian development divide, reducing risks, vulnerabilities and needs through the achievement of collective outcomes. Provision of IASC contribution to conceptualisation on collective outcomes was subsequently entrusted to the IASC Task Team on the Humanitarian-Development Nexus.

- The centrality of protection should be an integral part of any collective outcome, in line with the IASC policy adopted by the IASC Principals and subsequent guidance issued by the Global Protection Cluster. Given that there are different types of response scenarios, where the level of Government's capacity and/or willingness to deliver on such outcomes varies, at the very least there is a need to ensure collective advocacy for the development and implementation of human-rights and protection-related outcomes/objectives.

Objective

The objective of this document is to provide initial IASC contribution to the conceptualisation of the H/D nexus. It originated through a three-day workshop of the *IASC Task Team on the Humanitarian Development Nexus*, which gathered field practitioners and policy specialists to articulate a common position among humanitarians, through the IASC, on commonly-agreed upon understandings and criteria defining collective outcomes.

Essential Elements of a Collective Outcome.

This document does not attempt an IASC definition of collective outcomes, as there are a number of emerging articulations. This document thus provides an IASC contribution to such articulations. Most have fairly similar elements, but in essence a collective outcome consists of:

- An objective that envisions a sustained positive change, in particular in avoiding future need for humanitarian intervention, for example through reduction of vulnerability and risk. In most cases, achievement of this sort of objective will require multi-year action. The positive change could possess humanitarian, development and peace-building elements.
- Humanitarian action that continues to be identifiable as such but is implemented in a way that spearheads sustained positive change and allows development actors to engage from the outset of a crisis.

Key Humanitarian Planning Considerations

For successful definition and implementation of collective outcomes trust and collegiality is primordial. It requires an inclusive approach involving transparently all relevant actors, and it must be based on shared data.

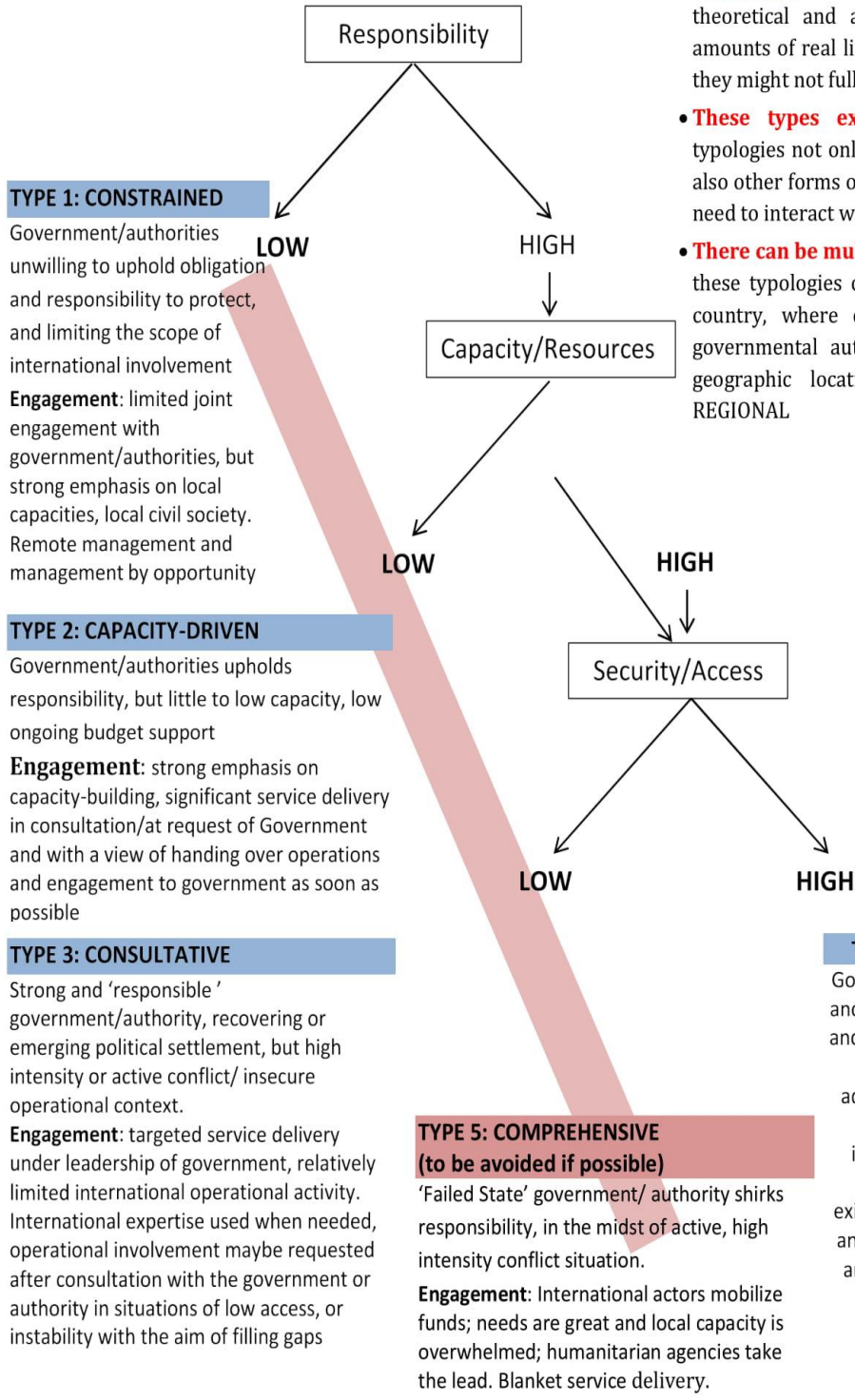
Based on feedback from the field and consideration at the global policy level, including through interaction with donors and entities such as the OECD, the following considerations are to varying degrees relevant when elaborating Collective Outcomes:

- There is no “one size fits all” and each situation must be assessed on its feasibility from a humanitarian perspective. There may be situations where either humanitarian engagement or development action is not possible, or where it is only possible in a particular geographic or thematic area. The decision tree on page 2 is meant to assist in navigating these different scenarios. This sort of “pre-analysis” is essential to ensure humanitarian principles are not compromised and to seek ways of mitigating the risk of this occurring. A three to five-year timeframe is typically envisioned when planning collective outcomes.
- While it is more a long-term development concern, it would make sense for the whole endeavour if there is “line of sight” between a collective outcome and the relevant SDG(s).
- There is a need to appreciate that a wider range of actors than is the norm for international humanitarian action, may be actively involved in planning and implementation, including national authorities and local authorities, IFIs, the private sector and donors. The fact that almost 80% of OECD development assistance is bilateral reinforces the need to link the longer-term element of collective outcomes with national development plans and action.
- In articulating a “theory of change” there is a specific need to explain how humanitarian action will contribute to the collective outcome.
- There are a number of issues that have been raised in discussion that should simply be classed as good analysis and programming. They include:
 - Outcomes should be needs-based and target those furthest behind.
 - Outcomes should be quantifiable, with clear lines of accountability.
 - Outcomes should take into consideration age, gender and diversity.
 - Involvement must “do no harm” and be consistent with Accountability to Affected Populations norms.
 - As has already been recognized as good practice for humanitarian action, civil society, local communities and beneficiaries should be involved in planning and implementation.
 - Implementation should take into account comparative advantage, including that of local actors.

Document Owner, Status and Review

The IASC Results Group on the Humanitarian-Development Collaboration is responsible for ensuring this document remains relevant. As a first step, the Results Group will concretize and advance guidance on collective outcomes with greater operational specificity, including by paying further attention to prevention, peacebuilding, peace and security and references to human rights and gender.

TYPOLGY OF HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT- PEACEBUILDING RESPONSE AND ENGAGEMENT SCENARIOS



Main Assumptions:

- **Basis for discussion:** This paper is prepared to not only inform, but also *be informed by* country discussions.
- **Scoping:** these typologies are proposed to help frame the conversation, by offering a common reference point to take decisions on scoping.
- **Theoretical:** These typologies remain theoretical and are meant to fit the most amounts of real life cases, acknowledging that they might not fully capture all of them.
- **These types exist at many levels:** the typologies not only apply to governments, but also other forms of authorities that HDP actors need to interact with.
- **There can be multiple types in one country:** these typologies can coexist within the same country, where different power structures, governmental authorities exists in different geographic locations; LOCAL/ NATIONAL/ REGIONAL